

DORKING AND HORLEY RURAL DISTRICT

A N N U A L R E P O R T S

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and of

THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year

1949

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West Hill House,
West Hill,
Epsom.

September, 1950.

To the Chairman and Members of the
DORKING & HORLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit an annual report for the year 1949, which has been prepared in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 2/50. Under the same cover will be found the annual report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

With regard to the figures relating to vital statistics it may be noted that the birth and death rates show slight falls, and that the infant mortality rate has reached a new low level. The death rate from tuberculosis has also declined.

When considering the infectious diseases, it will be seen that scarlet fever was more prevalent than usual, and that two cases of anterior poliomyelitis (infantile paralysis) occurred. On the other hand, there were no cases of diphtheria, typhoid or paratyphoid fever notified. There was no evidence of infectious disease caused by contaminated water or defective sanitary arrangements. Nevertheless, the progress made in extending water mains and sewers is disappointingly slow. Of necessity, much of this report is repetitive, but it is hoped that these parts may be useful for reference purposes.

Included under the same cover is the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, a great deal of whose time has been devoted to housing management. This has entailed some disregard for routine public health and housing duties, notwithstanding the energetic way in which the Chief Sanitary Inspector approaches his work. It was realised by the Council that an increase in his staff was necessary, and the position has now improved.

I wish to express my thanks for the encouragement which I have received from members of the Council, particularly those who give their time to the work of the Public Health and Housing Committee.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

CYRUS IVE

Medical Officer of Health

DORKING AND HORLEY RURAL DISTRICT

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

Cyrus Ive, M.B.,B.S.(Lond.),M.R.C.S.(Eng.),
L.R.C.P.(Lond.),D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Housing Officer

*** Eric A. Atkinson, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector

N.E. Whitby, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Sanitary Inspector's Assistant

W.R. Gilling.

Medical Officer of Health's Clerical Staff

Senior Clerk:	C.H. Argent.	
Shorthand/Typist:	Mrs. J. Bulezuik.	Appointed 21.2.49.
		Resigned 29.8.49.
	Miss F.I. Gardiner.	Appointed 3.10.49.
Telephonist:	Miss B. Croft.	Resigned 21.5.49.
	Miss M. Hamper.	Appointed 30.5.49.

Chief Sanitary Inspector's Clerical Staff:

Chief Clerk:	B.C. Kennedy.	
Shorthand/Typist:	Miss. M. Moody.	
Clerk:	Miss. P. Scott-Martin.	Resigned July/49
	Mrs. M. Goodyear.	Apptd. Sept/49
Clerk:	Miss. M. Worsell.	
Rodent Operator:	C. Jordan.	

(The Medical Officer of Health and his clerical staff act in a similar capacity for the Borough of Epsom and Ewell and the Dorking and Leatherhead Urban Districts).

Holds the Royal Sanitary Institute Certificate as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

Holds the Royal Sanitary Institute Certificate in Sanitary Science applied to Public Buildings and Works.

*** Ollett Silver Medalist 1945.

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STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (acres)	53,791
Population (census 1931).	18,485
Population (estimated mid-year 1949)	...	...	...	...	25,140
Number of inhabited houses according to the Rate Books at 31st December, 1949.	...	...	...	...	7,460
Rateable value at 31st December, 1949	...	...	...	...	233,661
Sum represented by a Penny Rate...	...	...	...	...	£902

The Rural District consists of a rectangular-shaped area of approximately 85 square miles and is comprised of the Parishes of Abinger, Betchworth, Buckland, Capel, Charlwood, Headley, Holmwood, Horley, Leigh, Newdigate, Ockley and Wotton.

PARISHES COMPRISING THE DISTRICT, WITH AREA,

NUMBER OF HOUSES, AND RATEABLE VALUE

Parish	Area (Acres)	No. of houses (Dec. 1949)	Rateable Value (Dec. 1949)
Abinger	7,481	562	16,682
Betchworth	2,562	455	14,342
Buckland	1,362	203	8,460
Capel	5,694	679	18,742
Charlwood	6,901	760	31,518
Headley	1,640	135	5,611
Holmwood	3,749	280	9,814
Horley	7,449	3,328	100,785
Leigh	3,419	228	6,605
Newdigate	4,744	369	9,343
Ockley	3,400	260	6,539
Wotton	5,390	201	5,220
TOTALS	53,791	7,460	233,661



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1. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>		
<u>Live Births:</u>					
Total live births	410	214	196	) Birth rate per 1,000 Civilian population	16.3
Legitimate	385	203	182		
Illegitimate	25	11	14		
<u>Still Births:</u>					
Total still births	11	8	3	) Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births.	26.1
Legitimate	9	7	2		
Illegitimate	2	1	1		
<u>Deaths (net)</u>	252	133	119	Crude Death Rate	10.0
<u>Deaths of infants under 1 year of age:</u>					
Total infant deaths	8	6	2		
Legitimate	8	6	2		
Illegitimate	-	-	-		
Death Rate of all infants per 1,000 live births					19.5
Death Rate of legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births					20.8
Death Rate of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births					-
<u>Deaths from Puerperal Causes</u>					
		<u>Deaths</u>		Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still) births	
Puerperal and Post Abortive Sepsis		1		2.38	
Other Maternal Causes		-		-	
<u>Deaths from:-</u>					
Measles	(all ages)	-			
Whooping Cough	(all ages)	-			
Diarrhoea	(under 2 years of age)	-			
Cancer	(all ages)	36			

Table 1 shows a comparison of the vital statistics of the year for the district with those for England and Wales.

Table II shows a comparison of birth, death and infant mortality rates for the district since 1933 with figures for England and Wales during the same period.

The birth rate is slightly below the national figure, and the death rate is considerably lower. The local death rate of 10. is reduced by the application of a comparability factor (0.92) to 9.2. A comparability factor is supplied to each district by the Registrar General and is designed to allow for differences in age and sex constitution, allowing more accurate comparisons to be made.

The infant death rate is the lowest yet recorded in this district, and is considerably below the rate for England and Wales.

TABLE I. COMPARATIVE BIRTH-RATES, CIVILIAN DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL MORTALITY AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1949

	England and Wales	Dorking and Horley District
<u>Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population</u>		
<u>BIRTHS</u>		
Live Births	16.7	16.3
Still Births	0.39	0.44
<u>DEATHS</u>		
All Causes	11.7	10.0
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	-
Whooping Cough	0.01	-
Diphtheria	0.00	-
Tuberculosis	0.45	0.16
Influenza	0.15	0.12
Smallpox	0.00	-
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	0.01	-
Pneumonia	0.51	0.32
<u>NOTIFICATIONS (corrected)</u>		
Typhoid Fever	0.01	-
Paratyphoid Fever	0.01	-
Cerebro-spinal Fever	0.02	-
Scarlet Fever	1.63	1.87
Whooping Cough	2.39	4.77
Diphtheria	0.04	-
Erysipelas	0.19	0.12
Smallpox	0.00	-
Measles	8.95	7.32
Pneumonia	0.80	0.64
Acute Poliomyelitis	0.13	0.08
Acute Polioencephalitis	0.01	-
Food Poisoning	0.14	-
<u>Rates per 1,000 Live Births</u>		
Deaths under 1 year of age	32	19.5
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under two years of age	3.0	-
<u>Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births</u>		
Notifications (corrected) of Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia	6.31	-
Maternal Mortality:		
Puerperal and Post Abortive Sepsis	0.22	2.38
Other Maternal Causes	0.71	-

TABLE II

COMPARATIVE BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANT MORTALITY RATES

Period	Average Annual Birth Rate per 1,000 Civilian Popu- lation. (Annual Rates 1941-1949)		Average Annual Crude Death Rate per 1,000 Civilian Population. (Annual Rates 1941-1949)		Average Annual Death Rate of Children under 1 year of age, per 1,000 Live Births (Annual Rates 1941-1949)	
	England and Wales	Dorking and Horley	England and Wales	Dorking and Horley	England and Wales	Dorking and Horley
1933-1940	14.9	14.1	12.2	12.0	57.1	45.3
1941	14.2	14.1	12.9	11.9	59	46.0
1942	15.8	18.5	11.6	12.9	49	55.1
1943	16.5	17.5	12.1	12.6	49	34.3
1944	17.6	19.3	11.6	12.2	46	27.5
1945	16.1	15.8	11.4	11.9	46	35.3
1946	19.1	18.4	11.5	11.9	43	29.0
1947	20.5	21.0	12.0	10.0	41	22.6
1948	17.9	16.6	10.8	10.1	31	29.3
1949	16.7	16.3	11.7	10.0	32	19.5

TABLE III

CAUSES OF DEATH - DORKING & HORLEY RURAL DISTRICT

Cause of Death	M	F	Total
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	-	-	-
2. Cerebro-spinal Fever	-	-	-
3. Scarlet Fever	-	-	-
4. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
5. Diphtheria	-	-	-
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	3	-	3
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	-	1	1
8. Syphilitic disease	1	-	1
9. Influenza	2	1	3
10. Measles	-	-	-
11. Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	-	-	-
12. Acute Infectious Encephalitis	-	-	-
13. Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus (males)	-	-	-
13a. Cancer of Uterus (females)	-	-	-
14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	4	-	4
15. Cancer of Breast	-	3	3
16. Cancer of all other sites	22	7	29
17. Diabetes	1	1	2
18. Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	8	15	23
19. Heart Diseases	43	44	87
20. Other Diseases of the Circulatory System	8	8	16
21. Bronchitis	5	11	16
22. Pneumonia	5	3	8
23. Other Respiratory Diseases	3	1	4
24. Ulceration of the Stomach or Duodenum	2	1	3
25. Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	-	-	-
26. Appendicitis	2	-	2
27. Other Digestive Diseases	2	2	4
28. Nephritis	2	1	3
29. Puerperal and Post-Abortive Sepsis	-	1	1
30. Other Maternal Causes	-	-	-
31. Premature Births	-	2	2
32. Congenital Malformation, Birth Injury, Infantile Disease	3	-	3
33. Suicide	2	-	2
34. Road Traffic Accidents	3	-	3
35. Other Violent Causes	1	3	4
36. All Other Causes	11	14	25
	133	119	252

2. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Laboratories available to medical practitioners are situated at the East Surrey Hospital, Redhill, and St. John's Hospital, Redhill. Examinations of specimens in connection with the diagnosis and treatment of infectious diseases can be referred to the Public Health Laboratory of the Medical Research Council situated at West Hill House, Epsom. This laboratory also undertakes bacteriological examinations of samples of water supplies, milk and food, including ice-cream.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

The public ambulance service is under the control of the Surrey County Council. A pamphlet has been received from the County Council's Public Health Department which gives information on the use of the ambulance service, and the following details are extracted from it.

In accidents in the home or elsewhere or in sudden illness in streets and public places, any responsible person may call the ambulance to remove the patient. Normal maternity cases will be removed if the applicant can give evidence that a maternity bed has been booked. Maternity cases with serious complications, or where birth is imminent, will not normally be moved without the authority of a doctor or certified midwife who should travel with the patient in the ambulance. The removal of other cases of illness or accident will be arranged by the hospital concerned or by the medical practitioner in charge of the patient. For private removals a written request accompanied by a doctor's certificate, should be made to the County Medical Officer. Providing that these requirements are fulfilled, no charge will be made to users.

The main ambulance station for the area is the Redhill Hospital (Telephone Redhill 3506) with substations at Victoria Road, Horley (Telephone Horley 1111) and at the Fire Station, Dorking, (Telephone Dorking 2222). Calls for the use of an ambulance in the parish of Headley will be answered either from the Dorking Station or from the Leatherhead Ambulance Station (Leatherhead 2222).

The transportation of cases of infectious disease to hospitals are by special ambulance.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION

Hospital accommodation, including those for infectious diseases, is now provided by the Regional Hospital Board.

It will be recalled that hospital accommodation for cases of infectious disease in the area has been under review since 1934, the Surrey County Council having been the co-ordinating authority. Three hospitals were involved, one of medium size in the Borough of Reigate, one in the Godstone Rural District, and one administered by the Dorking Urban District Council, both the latter being of small size and out of date construction.

(Hospital Accommodation(contd))

It was generally agreed that unification of these hospitals was desirable, and that ultimately modern accommodation sufficient for the whole area should be provided in the Borough of Reigate, either on the site of the existing isolation hospital or as a new block in the grounds of the Redhill County Hospital. The latter course was the recommendation made in the report of a national survey of hospitals carried out by the Ministry of Health as recently as 1945.

A reorganisation of quite a different character has been decided on by the Regional Hospital Board. The Redhill Hospital, the largest and most usefully constructed of the three under discussion, is to be closed to local patients, and placed at the disposal of the London Hospital for Tropical Diseases for use in accommodating cases of leprosy. The hospitals at Bletchingley and Westcott remain for local use, providing a total of sixty-seven beds. Both these hospitals are planned in such a way that most of their beds are in large wards, which can be used for one infectious disease only at a time. The scope of these hospitals is therefore smaller than would be suggested by their bed capacity. Accommodation for infectious diseases has also been reduced drastically in the neighbouring hospital group to the north, and is remote to the south.

The new policy has been dictated by the need to provide beds for other categories of patients, and demands sympathy. The effect of it, however, is to leave the south-eastern section of the county with its large and increasing population, poorly equipped to deal with infectious diseases should they occur in outbreaks of any size and variety. At such times the result must be either that patients, in most cases children, will be transported to distant hospitals, or that they will be kept at home by parents unwilling to allow them to be taken so far. The Council have protested without effect to the Ministry of Health.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

CARE OF MOTHERS, YOUNG CHILDREN ETC. - The provision of services relating to the care of mothers and young children, midwifery, health visiting, home nursing, immunisation and vaccination, ambulance and domestic help are the responsibility of the Surrey County Council as local health authority. Day to day administration is carried on by the Southern Divisional Health Sub-Committee with offices in the Borough of Reigate.

A time-table of clinics available is set out below:-

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

	<u>Centres available</u>	<u>Time Held</u>	
Abinger	Ewhurst Village Hall.	1 & 3 Fridays	2.p.m.
	Peaslake Old School Room	2 & 4 Mondays	2.p.m.
	Dene Street, Dorking	Wednesdays	2.p.m.
Betchworth & Buckland	The Vicarage (Voluntary)	2 & 4 Tuesdays	2.p.m.
	Brockham Vill.Hall. (")	1 & 3 Fridays	2.p.m.
Capel	Wesley Hall	2 & 4 Thursdays	2.p.m.
Charlwood	Parish Hall	2 & 4 Wednesdays	2.p.m.

Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics (contd)

	<u>Centres Available</u>	<u>Time Held</u>	
Headley	Congregational School Room Leatherhead Institute, Walton-on-the-Hill.	1 & 3 Tuesdays Fridays	2.p.m. 2.p.m.
Holmbury St.Mary	Holly Bush (Voluntary)	2 & 4 Fridays	2.p.m.
Holmwood	Village Hall	1 & 3 Thursdays	2.p.m.
Horley	Health Centre, Stn. Road.	Wednesdays Fridays	a.m. 2.p.m.
Leigh	Health Centre (Voluntary)	2 & 4 Mondays	2.p.m.
Newdigate	Village Hall (Voluntary)	3rd Tuesdays	2.p.m.
Ockley	Village Hall	1 & 3 Fridays	2.p.m.
Salfords	Parish Hall	2 & 4 Tuesdays	2.p.m.
Wotton	Dene Street, Dorking. Reading Room, Westcott.	Mon. & Wednesdays 2 & 4 Mondays	2.p.m. 2.p.m.

MINOR AILMENTS

Dene Street, Dorking	Mons. a.m. Tues. p.m.
Technical Institute, Station Road, Horley.	Fridays a.m.

ANTE-NATAL

Area adjacent to Dorking.	Dorking County Hospital	Fridays 9.30.a.m.
Area adjacent to Horley	Welfare Centres, Station Road, Horley.	Wednesdays 2.p.m.
Area adjacent to Redhill & Reigate.	Redhill County Hospital	Fridays 1.30.p.m.
Parish of Headley.	Institute, Leatherhead. Epsom County Hospital, Dorking Road, Epsom.	1, 3 & 5 Tuesdays 1.30.p.m. Mons. & Thurs. 1.30.p.m.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Horley and adjacent area	Health Centre, Horley	1st Thursday 10.a.m.
Area adjacent to Dorking	Dene Street, Dorking.	1st Wednesday 10.a.m.
Other parts of the District	At any Infant Welfare Clinic.	

TUBERCULOSIS

Abinger	Dene Street, Dorking.	1 & 3 Fridays 10.a.m.
Buckland Betchworth Newdigate	Dene Street, Dorking or 1a, Cecil Road, Redhill	1 & 3 Fridays 10.a.m. Thursdays 2.p.m. & every 2nd Thurs. 5.30p.m.
Capel Ockley Holmwood Wotton	Dene Street, Dorking.	1 & 3 Fridays 10.a.m.

Tuberculosis (contd)

Headley	The Health Centre, 44, Waterloo Road, Epsom.	Tues & Thurs. 2.p.m. 3rd Thursdays 5.30.p.m.
Charlwood Horley Leigh	Health Centre, Horley or 1a, Cecil Road, Redhill.	2nd Wednesdays 10.a.m. { Thursdays 2.p.m. (2nd Thursdays 5.30.p.m.

VENEREAL DISEASES

Redhill County Hospital, Earlswood Common.	Males: Females:	Mondays 5-7 p.m. Wednesdays 5-7 p.m.
The Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford.	Males: Females:	Tues.& Fri. 5-7 p.m. Saturday 2.30.p.m. Mondays 2-7 p.m. Thursday 9.30-11a.m.

(And at the Out-patient Department of many London Hospitals)

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 - SECTION 47

No action was taken by the Council under this section of the Act.

3. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER

There are three companies who supply water to the various parishes of the rural district, and they draw their supplies from widely separated sources.

The Dorking Water Company obtains water from a series of wells sunk into the Folkestone beds on the western outskirts of Dorking. The Hurtwood Water Company obtains water from deep bore holes in the greensand in the Guildford Rural District, while the East Surrey Water Company obtains most of its water from deep wells in the chalk of the north downs. The parishes served by the respective companies are as follows:-

East Surrey Water Company:-	Betchworth, Buckland, Charlwood, Headley, Horley, Newdigate and Leigh.
Dorking Water Company:-	Capel, Holmwood and Ockley
Hurtwood Water Company:-	Parish of Abinger.

In the parish of Wotton there are two private supplies, one serving the Wotton Estate, and the other a portion of the Denbies Estate at Ranmore.

TABLE OF WATER SUPPLIES

	All parishes
Estimated number of houses with a piped water supply:	6,414
Estimated number of houses with a well water supply:	279
Estimated number of houses with a spring water supply	161
Estimated number of houses dependant upon rainwater storage facilities:	2
Estimated number of houses without a proper water supply:	12

I (in the case of the twelve houses without a proper water supply, water for drinking and domestic purposes is carted by the owner, twice weekly)

At the end of the year the Council had under consideration schemes for extending water mains in the parishes of Betchworth, Charlwood, Horley, Ockley and Wotton.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Five parishes have been provided with a system of main drainage. The parish of Horley is covered by a comprehensive scheme of sewerage and sewage disposal, constructed in 1939, it includes a pumping station at Salfords and a sewage disposal works at Lee Street, Horley. The treatment works include automatic electric pumps, settling tanks, rotary sprinkler filters, humus tanks and sludge drying beds, and at present deals with a dry weather flow of 35,000 gallons per day. The scheme is a 'separate' one, that is deals exclusively with sewage, as distinct from a 'combined' scheme, in which surface water and sewage are conveyed in the same sewer.

The parish of Capel has a smaller and much older system of sewerage and sewage disposal, which serves about half of the population. Treatment works comprise pumping plant, settlement tank and three rotary filters. The greater proportion of the sewage after settlement is treated by broad irrigation.

In Betchworth a portion of the parish has been sewered by a gravitational system to an electrically operated pumping station in Wonham Lane, from whence sewage is pumped by agreement into the sewers of the Dorking Urban District Council for treatment on that authority's works.

The parish of Holmwood is covered by a fairly extensive system of sewerage which discharges to a small treatment area near Henfold Lane. Treatment is by settling tank and rotary sprinkler filter.

The parish of Ockley is served by two small disposal works which treat the sewage discharged thereto gravitationally. Such works consist of screening chambers, settling tanks, syphoning chambers and humus tanks.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

Closet accommodation in the district consists of water closets and earth closets and there are known to be at least 1,006 pail closets.

During the year three premises were connected to the Council's sewers. Two in the parish of Horley, and one in the parish of Capel.

HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION

House refuse is collected in the parishes of Horley and Holmwood by direct labour, the frequency of collection being weekly. In all other parishes, house refuse is collected monthly by private contractors.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

(1) Inspections for Purposes of Provision as to health, including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors:

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Occupiers Written Notices	Prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	86	17	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	-	-	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	86	17	-	-

(2) Cases in which defects were found:

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Reme- died	Referred to H.M. by H.M. Insp- Inspector.		
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.)	4	4	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3.)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4.)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6.)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)					
a. Insufficient	2	2	-	-	-
b. Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-
c. Not separate for the sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	7	7	-	-	-

4. HOUSING

I		Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year.	
1.	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for Housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	675
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	1,353
2.	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925.	-
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	-
		No houses were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 for the reason that following the completion of the "Hobhouse" survey all dwellings to which the Regulations were considered to apply, have been inspected and recorded.	
3.		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	-
4.		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	86
II		Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:	
		Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	39
III		Actions under Statutory Powers during the year:	
A.		Proceedings under Sections 9,10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
	(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	14
	(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-	
	(a)	By Owners	7
	(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	-
B.		Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
	(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring to be remedied	-
	(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-	
	(a)	By Owners	-
	(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	-

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13
of the Housing Act, 1936:

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect
of which Demolition Orders were made -
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished
in pursuance of Demolition Orders -

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the
Housing Act, 1936:

- (1) Number of separate tenements or
underground rooms in respect of which
Closing Orders were made Nil
- (2) Number of separate tenements or
underground rooms in respect of which
Closing Orders were determined the
tenement or room having been rendered fit. Nil

5. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The efforts made to safeguard milk and food intended
for human consumption are reported on by the Chief Sanitary
Inspector.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD

The County Council is the administrative authority for
the sections of the Food and Drugs Act dealing with adulteration.
Information has been received that during the year one hundred
and twenty-seven samples were taken in this district for chemical
analysis, and that during the same period one thousand eight
hundred and eighty-eight samples were taken within the
administrative area of the County.

Of those taken in this district one hundred and twenty-one
were of milk, three of cider, two of spirits and one of ice-cream.
Fourteen samples of milk were found to be below standard,
prosecution was carried out in one case and a conviction was
obtained.

6. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Table IV shows the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during 1949, classified according to age and sex, together with the number of patients removed to hospital, and the number of deaths, if any, from the various diseases. Table V shows the incidence of notifiable infectious diseases in the various parishes.

SMALLPOX - No case of smallpox was notified during the year.

VACCINATION - During the year notifications were received from general practitioners of one hundred and seventy-six primary vaccinations and fifty-four revaccinations against smallpox, performed in the course of their work under the terms of the National Health Service Act. Included in these are one hundred and forty-one vaccinations performed on children before they had reached the age of one year, equivalent to approximately 34% of the number of births taking place during the year.

SCARLET FEVER - Forty-seven notifications of scarlet fever were received during the year, a considerable increase on the total of twenty-three notifications in the previous year. Thirty-six cases were admitted to hospitals for treatment, and the remainder were nursed at home. The notification rate per thousand population was 1.87 compared with 1.63 for England and Wales. The illness was in most instances of a mild type.

DIPHTHERIA - No cases of diphtheria have been notified in the district. The notification rate for England and Wales was 0.04.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION - Treatment can be obtained from general practitioners under the terms of the National Health Service Act, or from clinics arranged by the local health authority.. Clinics are held at regular intervals at all Infant Welfare Centres serving the district. These arrangements are intended primarily for infants and others under school age. For the treatment of school children in large numbers the most suitable arrangement has been found to be specially organised clinics held on the school premises in conjunction with the education authority.

Notifications were received during the year from clinics and general practitioners that 268 children received primary treatment and 177 received reinforcing doses. In addition some children may have been treated privately or in other districts, about whom information has not been received. The following figures show how these facilities have been used:

	<u>Primary Treatment</u>	<u>Reinforcing Treatment</u>
Treated at clinics and schools	141	165
Treated by general practitioners	127	12
	<u>268</u>	<u>177</u>

Diphtheria Immunisation (contd)

Of the total number of children receiving primary diphtheria immunisation treatment, 91 completed treatment before reaching the age of one year.

Of the estimated child population of the district is known that 1,119 under the age of five years, and 2,450 over five years but under fifteen years have received treatment, equivalent to percentages of 54.3 and 75.2 respectively of the estimated population of these age groups.

Active immunisation against diphtheria has now been in operation in the district since 1935 and can claim a part in the reduction of the incidence and mortality rates which have occurred. The downward tendency of these rates can be seen by referring to Table VI. It is estimated that the risk of an untreated child contracting diphtheria is four times as great as that of an immunised child, and that the risk of death is nearly thirty times as great.

Reports from abroad and from some districts in this country claim to show an association between the onset of the paralytic symptoms of acute anterior poliomyelitis and immunisation, if the latter has been performed within the previous thirty days. It is known that during epidemics of poliomyelitis the virus is widespread, and that many people carry it without developing any paralytic symptoms. It is suggested that when recent immunisation has taken place in a subject already carrying the virus of poliomyelitis, the risk of such a person developing paralytic symptoms is slightly enhanced, and that there is an increased possibility of the limb used for the injection becoming the site of the paralysis. The matter is still under review. In the meantime, should the virus of poliomyelitis become widespread in the locality, the advice would be given to temporarily suspend all forms of immunisation at local authority clinics, and medical practitioners would be kept informed of the situation. Any association between poliomyelitis and prophylactic measures has not been noticed in cases occurring in this district.

ACUTE ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS (Infantile Paralysis)

Two cases were notified, one in a man aged 32 years, and the second in a child aged 7 months. In both cases the onset was in October. The adult patient's illness was comparatively slight and his progress suggested that he would be left with little disability. The attack suffered by the infant was much more severe and has resulted in prolonged hospital treatment which is not yet completed.

WHOOPING COUGH - One hundred and twenty notifications were received during the year. The incidence rate was 4.77 compared with 2.39 for England and Wales. No deaths occurred from the disease.

MEASLES - Outbreaks of measles were recorded in every parish except Abinger and Wotton. The epidemic in Horley was large. No deaths occurred from the disease. The case rate of 7.33 compared with 8.95 for England and Wales.

TUBERCULOSIS - Twenty names were added to the tuberculosis register during the year. They include fifteen of persons already domiciled in the district and five of persons who came to live here from other areas in which they had already been notified. Fifteen of the notifications related to the pulmonary form of the disease and five to the non-pulmonary.

Three deaths occurred from pulmonary tuberculosis, representing an annual death rate of 0.12 per 1,000 population. There was one death from the non-pulmonary form of the disease, representing an annual death rate of 0.04 per 1,000 population. The total tuberculosis death rate of 0.16 compared favourably with the rate of 0.45 for England and Wales.

An analysis into types of disease, sex and age groups of the new additions to the register is to be found in Table VII. As usual the greatest incidence fell on persons aged between twenty and forty-five years.

At the end of the year the tuberculosis register contained the names of fifty-five men and thirty-four women who at some time in their lives have been notified as suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis, and of twenty-seven men and twenty-two women suffering from the non-pulmonary form of the disease.

For comparative purposes, figures relating to the notification of tuberculosis and its mortality, between the years 1938-1949 are given below. The notification figures are those for persons domiciled in the district at the time of the diagnosis of the disease.

TUBERCULOSIS INCIDENCE AND MORTALITY

1938 - 1949

Period	Average Annual number of primary notifications (Annual Numbers 1948 - 1949)	Average Annual Rate per 1,000 Population. (Annual rate 1948 - 1949)	Average Annual Total Deaths (Annual Numbers 1948-1949)	Average Annual Death Rate per 1,000 Population (Annual Rate 1948 - 1949)
1938-1947	20	0.92	10	0.46
1948	28	1.14	9	0.37
1949	15	0.60	4	0.16

Disease	Cases Notified												Total all ages both sexes	Cases admitted to Isolation Hospital.	Deaths.								
	Under 1 year		1 to 3		3 to 5		5 to 10		10 to 15		15 to 25					25 to 45		45 to 65		65 years and over		All ages	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F				M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Smallpox	1	2	37	38	31	28	112	74	9	10	3	4	4	4	2	4	1	4	208	164	372	40	1
Diphtheria	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Scarlet Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Typhoid Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Paratyphoid Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Polioomyelitis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Polioencephalitis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pneumonia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Dysentery	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Food Poisoning	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Erysipelas	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Ophthalmia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Neonatorum	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Malaria	2	21	23	9	63	38	4	4	4	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	108	76	184	1	1
Measles	4	2	14	18	28	23	3	2	3	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	61	59	120	1	1
Whooping Cough	7	2	37	38	31	28	112	74	9	10	3	4	4	2	4	1	4	1	208	164	372	40	1

DISEASE	PARISHES											TOTAL	
	Abinger	Betchworth	Buckland	Capel	Charlwood	Headley	Holmwood	Horley	Leigh	Newdigate	Ockley		Wotton
Smallpox	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Diphtheria	4	4	1	1	4	2	4	20	4	1	1	2	47
Scarlet Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Typhoid Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Paratyphoid Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Poliomyelitis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Polioencephalitis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pneumonia	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	13	1	1	1	1	16
Dysentery	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1
Erysipelas	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Measles	5	3	3	14	3	4	4	13	12	3	4	9	184
Whooping Cough	5	1	1	36	3	1	1	17	2	23	25	9	120
	11	7	4	51	10	6	8	187	19	27	31	11	372

TABLE VI

INCIDENCE OF DIPHTHERIA IN DORKING AND HORLEY RURAL DISTRICT

Year	No. of cases Notified	Incidence Rate per 1,000 Population	No. of Deaths	Mortality Rate per 1,000 Population
1934	20	1.02	-	-
1935	5	0.25	-	-
1936	14	0.70	1	0.05
1937	13	0.64	3	0.15
1938	1	0.05	-	-
1939	1	0.05	-	-
1940	3	0.12	-	-
1941	3	0.12	-	-
1942	4	0.17	-	-
1943	-	-	-	-
1944	3	0.13	-	-
1945	1	0.05	-	-
1946	2	0.09	-	-
1947	-	-	-	-
1948	2	0.08	-	-
1949	-	-	-	-

TABLE VII

	PRIMARY NOTIFICATIONS RELATING TO PERSONS RESIDENT IN THE DORKING AND HORLEY RURAL DISTRICT.				SECONDARY NOTIFICATIONS OF PERSONS ALREADY NOTIFIED IN OTHER DISTRICTS AND NOW RESIDENT IN THE DORKING & HORLEY RURAL DISTRICT.				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 to 5	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 to 10	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 to 15	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 to 20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20 to 25	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 to 35	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 to 45	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
45 to 55	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 to 65	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
65 years and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
	5	5	3	2	4	1	-	-	3	-	-	1

RURAL DISTRICT OF DORKING AND HORLEY

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1949

Public Health and Housing
Department,
Brookmead,
Station Road,
Dorking.

September, 1950

To the Chairman and Members of the
DORKING AND HORLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting for your consideration the Annual Report on the work of the Public Health and Housing Department for the year 1949.

The various aspects of work carried out by the Department are referred to in later pages under the appropriate headings, and there is no matter to which I would draw your attention at this stage.

The sustained interest of the Chairman and Members of the Public Health and Housing Committee is very gratifying, and much appreciated.

My thanks are due to Dr.C. Ive, Medical Officer of Health, for his advice and support, and to members of my staff for their co-operation.

Acknowledgement must also be made of the advice and assistance given to me by the Chief Officers and staffs of other departments.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ERIC A. ATKINSON

Chief Sanitary Inspector and Housing
Officer

INSPECTIONS

The total number of visits and inspections of all kinds is greater than in 1948, and reflects the expanding work of the department.

While these figures show the scope of the inspections, they do not in themselves indicate the whole of the activities, much work of an advisory character is carried out, the results of which can only be demonstrated over a fairly long period.

(1) INSPECTIONS (INCLUDING RE-INSPECTIONS)

(The figures for 1948 are given
for comparative purposes)

	<u>1949</u>	<u>1948</u>
<u>PUBLIC HEALTH</u>		
Inspection of Dwellings under Housing Acts.	436	378
" " " " Public Health Acts	239	302
Visits in connection with water supply (excluding item marked * below)	81	20
Visits and enquiries re infectious disease	71	58
Number of rooms disinfected	39	14
Visits re moveable dwellings and camping sites	5	32
" " factories (with and without power)	17	15
" " offensive trades	3	-
" " cesspool nuisances	164	163
" to inspect drainage and work in progress	47	43
	<u>1,102</u>	<u>1,025</u>
<u>SUPERVISION OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES</u>		
Inspection of Bakehouses	12	11
" " Butchers shops	4	13
" " Cafes and Restaurants	28	56
" " Dairies and Milkshops	6	5
" " Farms and Cowsheds	36	52
" " Fishmongers (wet and fried)	6	3
" " Ice Cream Dealers	34	20
" " Slaughterhouses	55	6
" " Other Food Premises	8	-
Visits re Unsound Food	60	-
Number of samples taken for bacteriological examination:		
Ice Cream	22	14
Milk	54	1
* Water	56	101
	<u>381</u>	<u>282</u>
Number of animals inspected at slaughterhouses:		
Calves	4	-
Pigs	70	-
Sheep	2	-
<u>HOUSING</u>		
Visits to housing applicants	522	479
" " applicants for building licences	14	-
" " council houses re repairs	560	689
" " vacant and requisitioned premises	169	92
" " occupied hutments	864	296
	<u>2,129</u>	<u>1,556</u>

Inspections (continued)

OTHER ITEMS

Visits re rats, mice, and other insect pests.	205	-
Rooms disinfested	6	-
Visits to petroleum installations	6	5
Unclassified visits	4	41
	<u>221</u>	<u>46</u>

TOTAL 3,833 3,261

(2) NOTICES SERVED AND ACTION TAKEN

The Notices served and the action taken were as follows:-

(i) PRELIMINARY NOTICES

Number of Notices served	186
" " " outstanding on the	
31st December, 1948	48
" " " complied with	181
" " " outstanding on the	
31st December, 1949	53

(ii) STATUTORY NOTICES

Number of Notices served	14
" " " outstanding on the	
31st December, 1948	4
" " " complied with	11
" " " outstanding on the 31st	
31st December, 1949	7

Of these seven Notices, some work has been carried out in five cases, and work in default was pending in one other case.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Legal action was taken against one person for failure to comply with a Notice under Section 168 of the Housing Act, 1936, requiring information as to ownership for certain premises, preliminary to the service of Statutory Notice under Section 9 of the same Act. The defendant was not legally represented at the hearing, which was adjourned, but before the resumed hearing, the Notice was complied with and further action discontinued.

HOUSING

No report would be complete without a reference to housing matters, which continue to be the major activity of the department. During the year it was found possible, as a result of the occupants being rehoused, to demolish a few of the huts on the Horley Gardens Estate. Such is the pressing need, however, that the moment a hut is vacated, many applications are made for permission to occupy. The decision has to be made as to whether some relief should be given to an applicant whose home conditions are such, possibly as the result of friction with inlaws, that his marriage is at breaking point, or that the hut should be demolished, thereby relieving the Council of liability for repair and maintenance at ineconomical expense. Such a decision is not easy, and the decision to demolish even an unfit hut may have very widespread effect.

Housing (contd)

Occasionally it is possible, following the rehousing of an overcrowded family from a sub-standard house, to consider whether the house should be demolished, or closed following an undertaking by the owner not to relet. The question which leaps to the mind in cases of this sort is "Is the house as it stands worse than a hut under the Council's control?" In that question all the careful housing standards built up over many years of patient work, are set at nought, and the standard by which all accommodation is judged is that of a Nissen hut which had an expected life of two years, but which is still being patched and tinkered with five years after its abandonment by the Military Authorities, in order that it may continue to shelter some unfortunate applicant.

During the year, and following the issue of the Gibson Report, the Council revised its pointing scheme. The new scheme followed closely on the lines of that recommended by the Gibson Committee, and has in practice worked reasonably satisfactorily. The use of the "bedroom standard" in assessing the degree of overcrowding has been particularly helpful.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

It will be seen from the summary of visits the inspection and supervision of food and food premises has been well maintained.

Twenty-two samples of ice cream were taken for bacteriological examination, and were reported on as follows:-

<u>Sample No.</u>	<u>Loose or Prepacked</u>	<u>Methylene Blue Test</u>	<u>Coliform Test</u>	<u>Grade</u>
1	Loose	Decolourised in 1 hr	Present in 1/10 ml.	3
2	Prepacked	Not " 4½hrs	Absent in 1/10 ml.	1
3	Loose	Decolourised " ½hr	" in 1/10 ml.	3
4	"	" " 0hr	Present in 1/10 ml.	4
5	"	" " 0hr	" in 1/10 ml.	4
6	"	Not " 4½hrs	Absent in 1/10 ml.	1
7	"	Decolourised " ½hr	" in 1/10 ml.	3
8	"	Not " 4½hrs	" in 1/10 ml.	1
9	"	Not " 4½hrs	" in 1/10 ml.	1
10	"	Decolourised " ½hr	Present in 1/10 ml.	3
11	"	" " 0hrs	" in 1/10 ml.	4
12	"	" " 3½hrs	Absent in 1/10 ml.	2
13	"	Not " 4½hrs	" in 1/10 ml.	1
14	"	Not " 4½hrs	" in 1/10 ml.	1
15	"	Decolourised " 2hrs	" in 1/10 ml.	3
16	Prepacked	Not " 4½hrs	" in 1/10 ml.	1
17	Loose	Decolourised " 0hrs	Present in 1/10 ml.) Faecal coli present)	4
18	"	Not " 4½hrs	Absent in 1/10 ml.	1
19	"	Decolourised " 0hrs	Present in 1/10 ml.) Faecal coli present)	4
20	"	Not " 4½hrs	Absent in 1/10 ml.	1
21	"	Decolourised " 1hr	Present in 1/10 ml.) Faecal coli present)	3
22	"	Not " 4½hrs	Absent in 1/10 ml.	1

The twenty-two samples were taken from manufacturers, three in the district and one from outside the rural district. Grouped under the various manufacturers the results are as follows:-

<u>Dealers</u>	<u>No.. of Samples</u>	<u>Provisional Grades</u>			
		<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>
A	7	2	-	3	2
B	5	4	-	-	1
C	6	3	1	-	2
D	4	-	-	3	1
	<u>22</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>

It has been said that owing to the numerous factors governing the hygienic quality of ice cream and to the experimental error of the laboratory test itself, it is unwise to pay too much attention to the bacteriological results in any given sample. Judgement should be based on a series of samples. It is suggested that over a ~~six~~-monthly period 50 per cent of a vendors samples should fall into Grade 1, 80 per cent into Grades 1 or 2, not more than 20 per cent into Grade 3 and none into Grade 4.

The number of samples falling into Grade 4 (22.7% of the total) show that there is still some room for improvement. Eight of the samples showed the presence of coliform baccillus, and three contained faecal coli. It may be that an inferior standard of utensil hygiene is partly responsible for these unsatisfactory results. Infrequent changes of rinse water, and the use of insufficient or no sterilising agent are perhaps obvious causes. It is more than desirable that all ice cream should be sold in the form of a prepack, but this is not legally enforceable at the present time, in the meantime all retailers are being encouraged to pay more attention to utensil hygiene.

No application was made during the year for the registration of premises for the manufacture of ice crdam, but there was a continued increase in the number of purveyors. At the end of the year there were twenty-eight names in the register. Improved transport and refrigerated containers have enabled the larger manufacturers to send their products long distances, and to distribute them over a wide area without deterioration. The result is that ice cream manufactured by well known firms in the trade can be regularly obtained in every village in the rural district.

MILK AND DAIRIES

During the year legislation controlling the production of milk came into operation, full details of which were presented to the Committee. Under this new legislation the the supervision of the production of milk and inspection of farms and cowsheds passed to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and exercised by the County Agriculture Committee. While there are some who deplore the removal of this work from the Public Health Department, it must be admitted that in many rural district where there are a large number of dairy farms, there was not an adequate inspectorate to effectively carry out the duties of supervision and control.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

In accordance with previous arrangements a weekly notification of the issue of licences to slaughter cottagers pigs was received from the Food Executive Officer, and three slaughterhouses were licensed for the purpose. The existence of a "mobile" slaughterman with fully equipped van and implements in neighbouring district, tends to reduce the usefulness of the licensed slaughterhouse. There would appear to be no effective legal barrier to the slaughter of cottagers pigs in a back garden, and unless it is any part of the carcase to be sold for human consumption, the Sanitary Inspector has no right to insist on making an inspection of the carcase and organs. Many persons do, however, call on the department for advice and assistance.

RODENT CONTROL

During the year the services of the rodent operator were in continual demand and the following table summarises the work carried out.

No. of complaints received and investigated.	240
--	-----

No. of premises found to be infested	
(a) by rats	142
(b) by mice	46

No. of major infestations - rats	18
- mice	3

(Note: a major infestation occurs when twenty or more rats or mice are found)

No. of premises cleared (1) by operator	146
(2) by occupier	16

No. of premises undergoing treatment at end of year	26
---	----

In addition to the above, sewer treatment was carried out in the parishes of Horley, Betchworth, Capel and Ockley, and where infestation was found, the recommended treatment resulted in all sewers being cleared.

MORTUARY

During the year eight bodies were received into the Horley Mortuary.

